

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 CAB-02  
COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FAA-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
ICAE-00 INRE-00 /070 W  
-----026435 230127Z /63

O 230112Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0886  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, CASC, UR  
SUBJECT: DOWNED KOREAN AIRCRAFT

1. KAL COPILOT PROVIDED TO RUECKERT FOLLOWING  
DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENTS LEADING TO THE FORCED LANDING  
OF THE KOREAN AIRLINES AIRCRAFT: THE AIRCRAFT ENTERED  
SOVIET TERRITORY DUE TO A MALFUNCTION OF THE COMPASS AND  
LOST ITS POSITION. AT SOME POINT THEREAFTER, A SOVIET  
FIGHTER APPROACHED THE AIRCRAFT AND BEGAN TO SIGNAL  
THE KAL AIRCRAFT BY MOVEMENT THAT IT HAD ENTERED SOVIET  
TERRITORY. THE KAL AIRCRAFT ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT THE  
FIGHTER BY VHF RADIO AND INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY  
SERVICES, BUT COULD NOT RAISE THE FIGHTER BY ANY STATION.  
THE FIGHTER FOLLOWED THE AIRCRAFT FOR THREE MINUTES, AND  
THEN IT DISAPPEARED. APPROXIMATELY 10 MINUTES LATER, IT  
APPEARED AGAIN AND FIRED ON THE AIRCRAFT, BREAKING OF  
THE EDGE OF THE LEFT WING; SIMULTANEOUSLY CABIN BECAME  
DEPRESSURIZED. THE RESULT OF THE DEPRESSURIZATION WAS  
THAT THE AIRPLANE HAD TO DESCEND. THE FIGHTER REAPPEARED  
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IN FRONT OF THE KAL AIRCRAFT, BUT THE KAL AIRCRAFT  
ATTEMPTING TO FOLLOW COULD NOT, SINCE IT CONSTANTLY  
VERRED TO THE LEFT. SINCE THE CREW THOUGHT THAT A CRASH  
LANDING WOULD BE NECESSARY, CIRCLED FOR ONE AND ONE HALF  
HOURS TO LOSE FUEL. WHEN IT HAD 9000 POUNDS OF FUEL LEFT,  
IT SEARCHED FOR A LANDING AREA, FINDING ONE NEAR A SMALL  
TOWN (KEM). IT LANDED IN THE SNOW. THE LANDING,

ACCORDING TO THE CREW, WAS "GOOD IN ALL RESPECTS" AND THE CREW BELIEVES THAT THE INJURIES RESULTED FROM THE FIRING BY THE SOVIET FIGHTER, RATHER THAN FROM THE LANDING. THE CREW AND PASSENGERS WERE WELL TAKEN CARE OF AT KEM, AND THE INJURED RECEIVED MEDICAL ATTENTION.

2. THE PASSENGERS AND THE CREW ARRIVED IN MURMANSK IN TWO SOVIET AIRCRAFT ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE PAN AMERICAN AIRCRAFT. TOON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT, REPORTS, AIR COMBAT OPERATIONS, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MOSCOW08743  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780173-0152  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780426/aaaaawab.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** a1e1c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2876586  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DOWNED KOREAN AIRCRAFT  
**TAGS:** EAIR, CASC, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a1e1c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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